

CHARTS
FLOW PLANS

PAINT NUMBERED
TREES

PERMANENT
SAMPLES

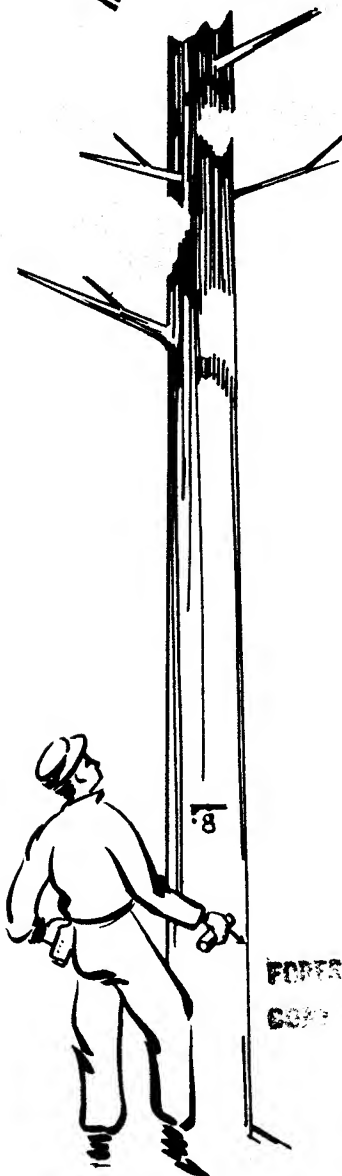
UNIT
RECORDS

TIMBER
BOOKKEEPING

THE DIAMETER
TAPE

TRIAL
BALANCE

PORT-A-
PUNCH



FOREST CONTROL
CONTINUOUS INVENTORY

FOREST CONTROL

by

CONTINUOUS INVENTORY

"Today I have grown taller from walking
with the trees."

...Karle Wilson

Milwaukee, Wis. January, 1966 No. 142

NATURE'S WAY IS GOOD FOR MAN

When mere man imposes his strong will on magnificent Nature, he has a worthy and durable opponent. Now mark you, there is no doubt that man has the authority to say what shall be done with a wild woods, but the question is, has he the wisdom? There is often some doubt of this, for the span of man is a short, short span and the tree lives long --- lives long.

CAL STOTT



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142

THE REGION NINE CFI SCHOOL PAPERS
FORD FORESTRY CENTER
L'Anse, Michigan
1965

If I had the time that 40 years a forester should afford, without a doubt I would sit under my apple tree by the garden and write a letter to each of the 100 foresters present at the spring 1965 CFI school. I would thank each man for his freely contributed share of comment, criticism and preparation for the meeting. This compendium of papers, I would say, is yours, and you may defend or oppose it at will. I would ask, however, that each one of you give a modicum of serious thought to the early beginnings of the CFI system almost a quarter of a century ago in Region 9.

Between sips of some refreshing elixer common to the center of culture and refinement which is Milwaukee, Wisconsin, I would embrace the fond hope that all of the visitors from 22 States and 3 Canadian Provinces took home with them a few of the early objectives and practical purposes of the inventory control system. I would like them to know that there was a great dearth of any kind of forest inventory 25 years ago in the Lake States. CFI, which was then but a murmur in the tree tops, set out to correct this situation and convert forest management from a position of weakness to one of strength through inventory.

We have long held CFI to be a management policy cruise. It was designed from the start as a means of periodically assessing change in the forest so that management would never fail to be periodically alerted to the need for change in executive policy for the forest.

The CFI plot is a multi-purpose plot. We wanted to show this characteristic of the sampling process at the school, using samples set out 27 growing seasons ago, and measured twice in the interim. We accomplished this, I think, and many were there to see that the system really is permanent, and that the plots are all recovered, even at long intervals after establishment.

The Forest Industries were represented at the school by 44 foresters, many of them trained in Industrial Research and Development. This close hookup between industrial research and CFI is a natural. From the beginning the permanent plot has been set out with the highest and best research standards. Techniques of establishment, measurement and data manipulation remain well in the forefront of progressive methods. The principles of sampling the ecological habitat in its entirety with all biological phenomena in the picture as much as possible, has always been a fundamental part of the CFI process. No one will deny the need for this approach in research and in the long run, it is also the firmest and most economic method of measuring the give and take of trees in permanent forest inventory. Those who respect the strength inherent in Nature's way with a woods over thousands of years will not lightly disregard an inventory process which seeks to measure and manage the forest with corresponding guidelines.

The Forest Service sent 13 men to the school from Regions 7, 8 and 9. I am very pleased. Federal Service is dedicated to the encouragement of improved forest management, consistent with multiple use, on all large timber holdings. CFI contributes much to this worthy end. The Branch of Cooperative Forest Management for Large Ownerships was established by men of sound vision in 1934, and those who are still with us today must be well aware that improvement of forest management has ever and always been behind every single permanent CFI plot.

Ten States, five forest schools and three other federal agencies were represented by 34 foresters at the meeting. Contributions to the program from these participants were of outstanding value to the success of the course.

Nine Canadian foresters brought their beautiful new flag to the conclave, gave us good tidings from friends across the border to the north, and quietly and thoughtfully took in the proceedings.

So with these papers, the CFI school for the year 1965 is officially ended. Perhaps in a few years there will be another school planned and monitored by the new reorganized forest region for those interested in the natural approach to forest inventory.

CAL STOTT
Forester